GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2310
ANSWERED ON:31.07.2017
Mid Day Meal Scheme
Maadam Smt. Poonamben Hematbhai

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is providing financial assistance for construction of kitchencum-store for cooking and safe storage of foodgrains in schools under the Mid Day Meal Scheme and if so, the details thereof;
(b) the number of students beneficiaries, people employed and budget allocated by Government to the States under the said scheme along with the cooking cost per day per child reimbursed/incurred during the last three years, State/ UT-wise and year-wise; and
(c) whether the Government has set up any monitoring mechanism to ensure that quality food is served to students and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

INISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI UPENDRA KUSHWAHA)

(a) Under the Mid Day Meal Scheme, the Central Government started providing 100% Central Assistance for construction of kitchen-cum-stores at a flat rate of Rs. 60,000/- per unit since 2006-07. The norms for kitchen-cum-stores have been revised from the month of December, 2009 and the cost of construction of kitchen-cum-stores is now determined on the basis of plinth area norms and the State Schedule of Rates prevalent in the State/UT on sharing basis. The revised norms prescribe 20 sq. mtr. plinth area for construction of kitchen-cum-stores in schools having upto 100 children; for every additional 100 children, additional 4 sq. mtr. plinth area will be added. States/UTs have the flexibility to modify the slab of 100 children depending upon local conditions.
(b) The State-wise number of children benefited, cook-cum-helpers engaged and fund released by the Government to the States/UTs under the scheme during the last three year are at Annexure −I & Annexure − II respectively. Under the scheme, the cooking cost per day per child during the last three years is as under:
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(in Rs.)
2014-15
(w.e.f. 01-07-2014)
2015-16
(w.e.f. 01-07-2015)
2016-17
(w.e.f. 01-07-2016)
Primary Upper Primary Primary Upper Primary Primary Upper Primary
3.59 5.38 3.86 5.78 4.13 6.18
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The cooking costs are to be shared between Central Government and States/UTs in prescribed ratio. The funding pattern has been revised from the year 2015-16 and at present the sharing ratio is 60:40 for non-NER States and UTs with legislature, 100% for UTs without Legislature and 90:10 for NER States and 3 Himalayan States viz. Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand.
(c) The Government has adopted an elaborate monitoring mechanism at Central, State and District levels to ensure that quality food is served to children under the Scheme. At national level, an Empowered Committee, headed by Minister of HRD, a National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee (NSMC) and Programme Approval Board (PAB), both headed by Secretary (School Education & Literacy), evaluate the performance of each State and UT in implementation of the Scheme and suggest measures for its smooth and effective implementation, which is a continuous process. At the State level, a State level Steering−cum-Monitoring Committee headed by the State Chief Secretary and, at District Level, a District Level Committee under the Chairpersonship of the senior-most Member of Parliament of Lok Sabha of the district monitors the implementation of the scheme in the concerned District. At local level Gram Panchayats/Gram Sabhas, members of Village Education Committees (VECs), Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) and the School Management Committees (SMCs) are required to monitor

the regularity and wholesomeness of the mid-day meal served to children, cleanliness in cooking and serving of the meal, timeliness in procurement of good quality ingredients, fuel, etc., implementation of variety in menu so as to make it attractive to children and ensuring social and gender equity on daily basis. In addition, the Centre constitutes Joint Review Missions (JRMs) consisting of educational and nutritional experts, which review the scheme through field visits from time to time. The reports of JRMs are shared with concerned States/UTs for taking corrective action on the findings.
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